

Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF)

The Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) is a non-earmarked credit facility used to kick start activities for disaster response and preparedness. With a target level of 10 million Swiss francs, DREF is the International Federation's main mechanism for accessing immediate emergency funding.

DREF was created in 1985 to ensure that the International Federation has funds available for rapid and immediate response to disasters. Funds for the DREF are sought through the annual appeal. The appeal for funds is calculated based on the difference between the DREF balance at the close of the fiscal year and the 10 million Swiss franc target. Requests are made for the utilization of funds, and once approved they are transferred through the fastest banking system available, or as a last resort, hand delivered from the International Federation secretariat.

For disaster response, a maximum of 2 million Swiss francs or 15 per cent of the emergency appeal may be allocated. For disaster preparedness, a maximum of 500,000 Swiss francs may be allocated annually.

Once allocations have been made, an email notification is sent out to donors, National Societies and concerned International Federation field offices.

The fund is reimbursed as soon as contributions against the appeal or the operation are received. Information and reports on DREF are available on the International Federation website:

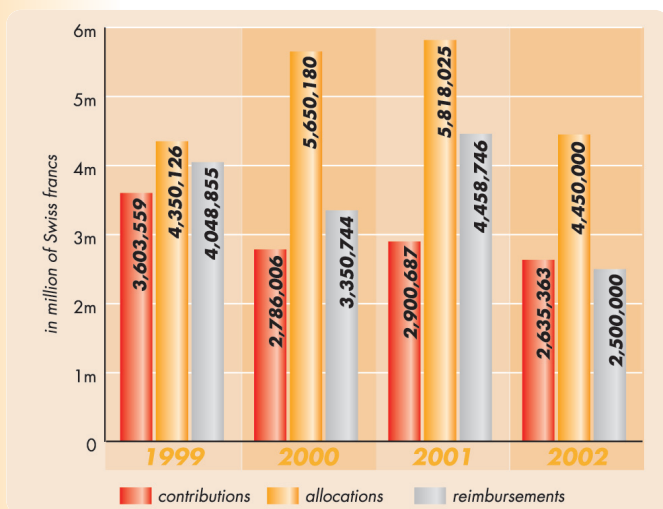
<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/dref/>

Key data 1999-2002

- DREF supported operations: 167
- Total DREF allocations:
20,2 million of Swiss francs
- Total DREF reimbursements:
11,3 million of Swiss francs

DREF trends 1999-2002

The graph below shows funds contributed towards DREF appeals and funds allocated and reimbursed over a period of four years.



Allocations by disasters

- Total numbers of major operations 1999-2002: **83**
Total allocations for major disasters:
11,7 million of Swiss francs
- Total numbers of minor operations 1999-2002: **84**
Total allocation is for minor disasters:
8,3 million of Swiss francs

